

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as shown in the following Listing of Claims.

1. **(currently amended)** A method for providing hotel information comprising the steps of, in combination:

arranging with a plurality of hotels for the plurality of hotels to provide room occupancy and rate information to a computer programmed to receive the room occupancy and rate information directly from the plurality of hotels;

receiving room occupancy and rate information in the computer from the plurality of hotels; and

providing current information via the computer to each of the plurality of hotels including current daily rate information of the plurality of hotels and current room availability information of the plurality of hotels so that a referring hotel of the plurality of hotels can make at least one of a reservation for a potential customer at an available hotel of the plurality of hotels and a referral of the available hotel to the potential customer; and

providing a referral fee to the referring hotel when the potential customer stays at the available hotel in response to at least one of the reservation and the referral.

2. **(previously presented)** The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of faxing a report to the plurality of hotels, wherein the report includes the current daily rate information of the plurality of hotels and current room availability information of the plurality of hotels.

3. **(previously presented)** The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing the current information to the plurality of hotels over a computer network in real time.

4. **(previously presented)** The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing the current information to include the current daily rate information and the current room availability information for competing hotels.

5. **(cancelled)**

6. **(cancelled)**

7. **(cancelled)**

8. **(previously presented)** The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of providing the current information to include occupancy percentage and average daily rate for a predetermined group of the plurality of hotels.

9. **(cancelled)**

10. **(currently amended)** A system for providing hotel information comprising, in combination:

a computer connected to a communication system;

wherein the computer is programmed to receive occupancy and rate information directly from a plurality of hotels; and

wherein the computer is programmed to provide current information to each of the plurality of hotels including current daily rate information of the plurality of hotels and current room availability information of the plurality of hotels; and

wherein the computer is programmed to receive referral information from a referring hotel of the plurality of hotels when the referral hotel makes at least one of a reservation for a potential customer at an available hotel of the plurality of hotels and a referral of the available hotel to the potential customer.

11. **(previously presented)** The system according to claim 10, wherein the computer is programmed to prepare and fax a report to the plurality of hotels, wherein the report includes the current daily rate information of the plurality of hotels and current room availability information of the plurality of hotels.

12. **(previously presented)** The system according to claim 10, wherein the computer is programmed to provide the current information to the plurality of hotels over a computer network in real time.

13. **(previously presented)** The system according to claim 10, wherein the computer is programmed to provide the current information to include the current daily rate information and the current room availability information for competing hotels.

14. **(cancelled)**

15. **(cancelled)**

16. **(cancelled)**

17. **(previously presented)** The system according to claim 10, wherein the computer is programmed to provide the current information to include occupancy percentage and average daily rate for a predetermined area group of the plurality of hotels.

18. **(cancelled)**

19. **(cancelled)**

20. **(cancelled)**

21. **(currently amended)** A method for obtaining hotel room occupancy and rate information comprising the steps of, in combination:

agreeing to provide current room rate information and current room availability information for a participating hotel to a computer of a service provider programmed to receive current room rate information and current room availability information;

providing the current room rate information and current room availability information for the participating hotel to a service provider; and

receiving from the service provider via the computer current information for a plurality of hotels including current daily rate information of the plurality of hotels and current room availability information of the plurality of hotels so that the participating hotel of the plurality of hotels can make at least one of a reservation for a potential customer at an available hotel of the plurality of hotels and a referral of the available hotel to the potential customer; and receiving a referral fee when the potential customer stays at the available hotel in response to at least one of the reservation and the referral.

22. **(previously presented)** The method according to claim 21, further comprising the step of receiving the current information for the plurality of hotels over a computer network in real time.

23. **(previously presented)** The method according to claim 21, further comprising the step of providing a referral card including location information of the available hotel to the potential customer.

24. **(previously presented)** The method according to claim 21, wherein the current daily rate information of the plurality of hotels received from the service provider comprises an average daily rate determined by the computer for a predetermined group of the plurality of hotels and the current room availability information of the plurality of hotels received from the service provider comprises a percent occupancy determined by the computer for the predetermined group of the plurality of hotels.

25. **(cancelled)**

26. **(previously presented)** The method according to claim 1, wherein the current daily rate information of the plurality of hotels comprises an average daily rate determined by the computer for a predetermined group of the plurality of hotels and the current room availability information of the plurality of hotels comprises a percent occupancy determined by the computer for the predetermined group of the plurality of hotels.

27. **(cancelled)**

28. **(currently amended)** The ~~method~~ system according to claim 10, wherein the current daily rate information of the plurality of hotels comprises an average daily rate determined by the computer for a predetermined group of the plurality of hotels and the current room availability information of the plurality of hotels comprises a percent occupancy determined by the computer for the predetermined group of the plurality of hotels.

29. **(cancelled)**

30. (**currently amended**) The ~~method~~ system according to claim ~~29~~ 10, wherein the computer is programmed to credit a referral fee to the referring hotel when the potential customer stays at the available hotel in response to at least one of the reservation and the referral.